

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner
 US Department of Commerce
 United States Patent and Trademark
 Office, PCT
 2011 South Clark Place Room
 CP2/5C24
 Arlington, VA 22202
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 14 February 2001 (14.02.01)	
International application No. PCT/FI00/00482	Applicant's or agent's file reference 991394 WO
International filing date (day/month/year) 30 May 2000 (30.05.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 17 June 1999 (17.06.99)
Applicant KIVISTÖ, Tuomo et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

27 December 2000 (27.12.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was
☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer R. E. Stoffel Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING OF A CHANGE

(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

OUTOKUMPU OYJ
Intellectual Property Management
P.O. Box 27
FIN-02201 Espoo
FINLANDE

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 17 November 2000 (17.11.00)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 991394 WO	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/FI00/00482	International filing date (day/month/year) 30 May 2000 (30.05.00)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning: <input type="checkbox"/> the applicant <input type="checkbox"/> the inventor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the agent <input type="checkbox"/> the common representative		
Name and Address OUTOKUMPU OYJ Patent Services P.O. Box 27 FIN-02201 Espoo Finland	State of Nationality	State of Residence
	Telephone No. 358-9-4211	
	Facsimile No. 358-9-4212978	
	Teleprinter No.	
2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning: <input type="checkbox"/> the person <input type="checkbox"/> the name <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the address <input type="checkbox"/> the nationality <input type="checkbox"/> the residence		
Name and Address OUTOKUMPU OYJ Intellectual Property Management P.O. Box 27 FIN-02201 Espoo Finland	State of Nationality	State of Residence
	Telephone No. +358-9-4211	
	Facsimile No. +358-9-421 2978	
	Teleprinter No.	
3. Further observations, if necessary:		
4. A copy of this notification has been sent to: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office <input type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority <input type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned <input type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned <input type="checkbox"/> other: </div> </div>		

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer J. Leitao Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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PCT

NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

(PCT Rule 47.1(c), first sentence)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To
OUTOKUMPU OYJ
Intellectual Property Management
P.O. Box 27
FIN-02201 Espoo
FINLANDE

Teles
Received

05.01.01

OUTOKUMPU
PATENT OFFICE

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 28 December 2000 (28.12.00)		
Applicant's or agent's file reference 991394 WO		IMPORTANT NOTICE
International application No. PCT/FI00/00482	International filing date (day/month/year) 30 May 2000 (30.05.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 17 June 1999 (17.06.99)
Applicant OUTOKUMPU OYJ et al		

1. Notice is hereby given that the International Bureau has communicated, as provided in Article 20, the international application to the following designated Offices on the date indicated above as the date of mailing of this Notice:

AU, KP, KR, MZ, US

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c), third sentence, those Offices will accept the present Notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

2. The following designated Offices have waived the requirement for such a communication at this time:

AE, AL, AM, AT, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EA, EE, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW

The communication will be made to those Offices only upon their request. Furthermore, those Offices do not require the applicant to furnish a copy of the international application (Rule 49.1(a-bis)).

3. Enclosed with this Notice is a copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 28 December 2000 (28.12.00) under No. WO 00/79026

REMINDER REGARDING CHAPTER II (Article 31(2)(a) and Rule 54.2)

If the applicant wishes to postpone entry into the national phase until 30 months (or later in some Offices) from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed with the competent International Preliminary Examining Authority before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor the 19-month time limit.

Note that only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination.

REMINDER REGARDING ENTRY INTO THE NATIONAL PHASE (Article 22 or 39(1))

If the applicant wishes to proceed with the international application in the national phase, he must, within 20 months or 30 months, or later in some Offices, perform the acts referred to therein before each designated or elected Office.

For further important information on the time limits and acts to be performed for entering the national phase, see the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 (Notification of Receipt of Record Copy) and Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

<p style="text-align: center;">The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland</p> <p>Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35</p>	<p>Authorized officer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J. Zahra</p> <p>Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38</p>
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 991394 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/FI00/00482	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 30.05.2000	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17.06.1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C25C 7/00, C25C 7/06		
Applicant Outokumpu Oyj et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

 These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 27.12.2000	Date of completion of this report 27.04.2001
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/SE Patent- och registreringsverket Box 5055 S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. 08-667 72 88	Authorized officer Ulrika Nilsson/MP Telephone No. 08-782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FI00/00482

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

☒ the international application as originally filed

☐ the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

☐ the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, as amended (together with any statement) under article 19

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

☐ the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

☐ the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed

pages _____, filed with the demand

pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).

☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).

☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheet/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2 (c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item I and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FI00/00482

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-10</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-10</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-10</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

The claimed invention relates to an arrangement for treating solids settled on the bottom of an electrolytic tank.

The aim of the invention is to enable a separation of coarse particles from the rest of the solids, preferably without first having to drain the electrolyte from the tank. For this purpose, the arrangement possesses the features described in the characterising part of claim 1.

The following documents are cited in the International Search Report:

D1: US 3 890 214 A
D2: JP 57 098 691 A

D1 relates to an apparatus for slime removal from electrolyzers. A suction pipe is immersed in an electrolysis bath bringing a slime mixture of melted electrolyte and sludge to a collecting vessel. The slime settles out in the collecting vessel and after raising the pressure in the vessel, entrained electrolyte is returned through the suction pipe to the electrolyser.

D2 relates to less relevant prior art concerning a clean filtration method for electrolyte.

The documents do not disclose the special combination of features defined in the invention. According to the invention, the arrangement comprises a collector element that is movable essentially along the bottom of the electrolytic tank or in its vicinity. The collector element is further provided with means for separating coarse particles from the rest of the solids.

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FI00/00482

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: V.

None of the cited documents, taken alone or in combination, reveals the invention defined in claims 1-10. Furthermore, in the cited documents there are no suggestions leading a person skilled in the art towards the invention defined by claims 1-10. Therefore, the invention is novel, involves an inventive step and has industrial applicability.

